

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



## The Epiphany of Our Lord

*Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.*

Saturday 6 Jan 5pm and Sunday 7 Jan 10am 2024



Prelude Music: "Trio from Sonata # 9", by W.A. Mozart

**Welcome and Announcements -**

**The Rev. Allison Cornell**

## Opening Hymn and lighting of the wreath:

Epiphany Sunday— “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

#128

## The Greeting

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider “Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.”—Isaiah 60: 3.

## Gloria:

### 519 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name



1. Ho - ly God, we praise thy name!  
2. Hark! the loud ce - les - tial hymn  
3. Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son.



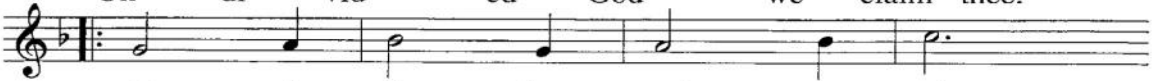
Lord of all, we bow be - fore thee;  
An - gel choirs a - bove are rais - ing;  
Ho - ly Spir - it, Three we name thee,



All on earth thy scep - ter claim,  
Cher - u - bim and Ser - a - phim  
While in es - sence on - ly One,



All in heav'n a - bove a - dore thee;  
In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing,  
Un - di - vid - ed God we claim thee.



In - fi - nite thy vast do - main,  
Fill the heav'ns with sweet ac - cord:  
And a - dor - ing bend the knee,



Ev - er - last - ing is thy reign.  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!  
While we own the mys - ter - y.

## The Collect of the Day

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

People **And also with you.**

Presider *Let us pray.*

**All: O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Lessons from Scripture *(please be seated for the lessons)*

**First Reading:** from the book of Isaiah (60:1-6, 11):

Arise, daughter; shine, daughter; for your light has come, daughter, and the glory of the Holy One has risen upon you, daughter. For—watch now, daughter!—bleakness shall cover the earth, and thick bleakness the peoples; and upon you, daughter, the Holy One will arise, and over you, daughter, God's glory will appear. Nations shall come to your light, daughter, and monarchs to the brightness of your dawn, daughter. Lift your eyes round about, daughter, and see; all of them gather, they come to you, daughter; daughter, your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' hips.

Then, daughter, you shall see and be radiant; your heart, daughter, shall tremble and swell, because the abundance of the sea shall turn toward you, daughter, the wealth of the nations shall come to you, daughter. A multitude of camels shall cover you, daughter— young camels of Midian and Ephah— all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praises of the Holy One.

Your gates shall always be open, daughter; day and night they shall not be shut, so that nations shall bring you their wealth, daughter, being led by their monarchs.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 67: 1-7**

- 1 May God be merciful to us and bless us,  
show us the light of her countenance and come to us.**
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.**
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.**
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations upon earth.**
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.**
- 6 The earth has brought forth her increase;  
may God, our own God, give us her blessing.**
- 7 May God give us her blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of her.**

**Second Reading:** from the Epistle of 2nd Timothy (1:5-10)

Considering the recollection of your faith without pretense, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, now I am persuaded that faith lives in you. For this reason I remind you to reignite the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but one of power and of love and of self-control.

Be not ashamed, then, of the testimony of our Savior or of me Christ's prisoner, rather share in suffering for the sake of the gospel, do so through the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, rather according to God's own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began. Now it has been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who negated death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

**Reader:** The word of the Lord.      **People:** Thanks be to God.

## **Gospel Reading Matthew 2:1-12**

**Deacon:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew.**

**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Now Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod. Suddenly sages from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the one born king of the Judeans? For we have seen his star at its ascent and have come to reverence him." When King Herod heard this, he was shaken, and all Jerusalem with him; then calling together all the chief priests and religious scholars of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah would be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, by no means are least among the rulers of Judah; from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the sages and learned from them the time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go, search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word so that I may also go and reverence him." When they had heard the king they left, and there suddenly was the star that they had seen at its ascent going before them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw that the star had stopped, they rejoiced; their joy was exuberant. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary, his mother; and they fell down and revered him. Then, opening their treasure, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**Deacon:** The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ**

## **Sermon**

## **The Nicene Creed** *All say together*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

**Leader:** Let us pray to God, who is made manifest in Jesus Christ. As the prophet Isaiah rang out, “Arise, shine; for your light has come”;

**People:** **Empower your Church, O God, to ring out the Good News of the Light of your son Jesus, which pierces even the deepest darkness.**

**Leader:** As a star rose high into the nighttime sky to draw the nations to the Christ-child;

**People:** **send your blessing, O God, on this nation, and every nation, and draw the whole world to your peace and truth.**

**Leader:** As John the Baptist guided throngs of people to the edge of the wilderness and baptized Jesus in the River Jordan,

**People:** **we pray that you would guide our country and our leaders to the ways of justice and righteousness.**

Leader: Like the Magi who traveled from afar to bring gifts and celebrate the Savior's birth;

**People: we pray for this community, and for those who celebrate their own birthdays and anniversaries and other happy occasions.**

Leader: As Jesus climbed the mountaintop, and proclaimed blessings on the people of the world;

**People: we pray for healing of the sick and comfort for the distressed, relief for the poor, and good news for the desperate.**

Leader: As Jesus called his disciples to leave their nets and boats, everything of their former life, and follow him;

**People: we pray for those we love and who have answered your call to follow Jesus into your Heavenly Kingdom. Give them your peace.**

Leader: In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for **The Scottish Episcopal Church**. In the diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for **St. Alban's in Wickenburg**. With honor and respect we remember the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tohono O'odham, who call this area home.

**People: May God bless and keep them healthy and protected.**

Presider: Lord Jesus, Light of the World, hear our prayers, and make us reflections of your Light, that the places of darkness in our world would be pierced by your Light, and that all nations would be drawn to you and be overwhelmed with joy. **Amen.**

## **Exchange of the Peace**

Presider *May the peace of Christ be always with you*

All **And also with you.**

*(The Ministers and People exchange socially distant signs of peace (peace sign, namaste, virtual hug)*

## **Offertory**

Presider: *Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name.*

**Offertory Music:** *"Brightest and best of the stars of the morning "*

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## The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Rite II Prayer B BCP p. 367

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

People **And also with you.**

Presider *Lift up your hearts.*

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Presider:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*All:* *Sanctus - Hymnal 1982 #S-125*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory  
Hosana in the highest, Hosana in the highest  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord  
Hosana in the highest, Hosana in the highest***

*The people stand, sit, or kneel.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,:



*"Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."*

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

*"Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."*

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts (+) that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified (+) by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we  
forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but  
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the  
glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Fraction: The Breaking of the Bread**

*(In silence the Presider breaks the bread)*

*Fraction Anthem*

*H1982 # S-155*

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore, let us keep the feast  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

## **Invitation to Communion:**

**Presider:** The gifts of God for the people of God.

*(In this church, everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion.*

*Gluten free bread and real wine are used. If you prefer to dip/intinct your bread into the wine, please come to the left altar rail. If you prefer to take a sip of wine from the cup, please come to the right altar rail. If you prefer to receive a priest blessing instead of the bread and wine, come to either rail and cross your arms over your chest. .*

**Communion Music - “Songs of thankfulness and praise“ #135**

**Post Communion Prayer** *The people stand as they are able.*

**Presider:** Let us pray: *Presider and People*

**Lord Jesus Christ, by your incarnation you united things earthly and things heavenly. Fill us with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill, that we may join the heavenly host in singing praises to your glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

*The Presider says*

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. And may Almighty God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn** “*Earth has many a noble city*”

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## Dismissal

Deacon: *Let us go forth in the peace and spirit of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!*

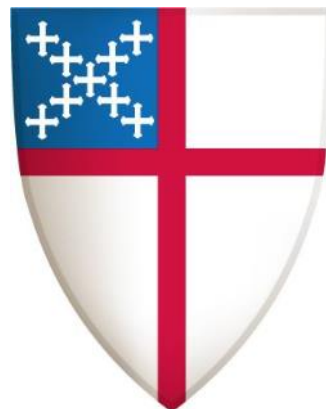
People       **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)**

Postlude: “*O Savior Sweet*”, by J.S. Bach arr. by Robert Franz and Steven Scott

*Notice: All church activities may be internet streamed, video recorded, and photographed for church uses. Entry on to the church campus or in to any church building constitutes consent to be streamed, videotaped, or photographed for church purposes.*



2750 Cardinal Dr. Sierra Vista, AZ 85635  
<https://ststephensaz.org>  
520-458-4432



## ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Rector:** Allison Cornell  
Off. Phone: 520-458-4432  
Mobile: 562-743-3784

[RevAllison@ststephensaz.org](mailto:RevAllison@ststephensaz.org)

**Parish Administrator**

Mark Sowards  
Off. Phone 520-458-4432  
Mobile: 408-892-1062

[mark.sowards@ststephensaz.org](mailto:mark.sowards@ststephensaz.org)

Office Fax: 520-458-8237

**Deacon**  
Dorothy Gutwein  
Hm: 520-515-9183  
[dottie85635@gmail.com](mailto:dottie85635@gmail.com)

**Church Accompanist :**

Doreen Oberg  
[doreenoberg@hotmail.com](mailto:doreenoberg@hotmail.com)

**Vestry Staff**

**Senior Warden:**

Jeff Speer  
[jeffrey5454speer@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey5454speer@gmail.com)

Cell:(520) 678-5688 Please leave voicemail message

**Junior warden:**  
Pete Criscuolo  
[petesacct2014@gmail.com](mailto:petesacct2014@gmail.com)  
Cell: 520-234-7687

**Treasurer:**  
Anne Roth  
Cell:303/917-8151  
[avd.roth@comcast.net](mailto:avd.roth@comcast.net)

### Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check  here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update      Giving Envelopes       Mail News Letter     

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (first) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mid.) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last)

Hm: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Anv. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Adrs: \_\_\_\_\_ BrthDate \_\_\_\_\_

City, St., Zip: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_